

**Murray History Advisory Board**  
**Minutes for November 29, 2011**

Attendance: Peter Steele, Wendy DeMann, Ted McBride, Susan Wright, Mary Ann Kirk (staff).

1. Minutes for October 25, 2011 were approved. A new meeting schedule for 2012 was approved.
2. Staff Report:
  - a. One proposal was received and accepted for the RLS Survey and National Register Update. Korral Broschinsky will document each property for \$12 a piece and may do more than what the grant allows if we only have a few property pieces remaining so we can complete the whole city with this project.
  - b. Korral is also doing the library history.
  - c. Murray Park experienced theft of several historical bronze plaques in the arboretum. We only had one picture which captured the marker that was not stolen. Because these plaques were created in the 1950s or 60s, we have no records to capture the information on the markers themselves. We will be taking pictures of our monument plaques so we have the information documented in the event future plaques are stolen.
  - d. The history ordinance will be revised by City Council to separate the inventory and register as two separate data bases. It was accidentally combined when the DHOD wording was removed.
3. Landmark restrictions were discussed for the most significant buildings on our registry. Mary Ann gave a few examples such as the Cahoon Mansion, Flour Mill, Miller Estates Clubhouse, and Murray 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward. Our own registry does not have restrictions on changes or demolitions. The National Registry doesn't either. Restrictions are created through city ordinances. Peter suggested we could discuss restrictions with the owners themselves. If they agree to it, then it would be more palatable for the City Council to approve it. Board members suggested we research potential language from other communities that is not quite as heavy handed as Park City or Salt Lake City but provides a little more protection for these assets. We could also research incentives to preserve.
4. Mary Ann attended a disaster response conference that addressed emergency response for cultural resources. She is proceeding to evaluate issues related to the museum and training her volunteers on how to handle an emergency like an earthquake. She also plans to meet with the building department to discuss how to educate homeowners on things that could be done to minimize damage to older homes from an earthquake. This could be a major issue in Murray since a large percentage of the community was built before 1970 when stricter seismic codes were established. She is considering hosting neighborhood meetings and inviting the building department to help educate home owners on what they could reasonably address. This could be part of the Utah Shakeout activity being planned for April. Board members liked this idea.
5. Mary Ann reviewed a proposal for an apartment complex on Center Street. When the design guidelines were approved as part of the new downtown civic center, they restricted the height of new buildings along Center Street to 50 feet although they encourage buildings much higher than this to the west to create density. This new proposal has used the maximum five stories for an apartment complex that is on the west side of Center Street. She thought the guidelines included recommendations for a step up design to provide a buffer. She wonders if Planning and Zoning and City Council really evaluated and understood the scale of a five story building across a small street from one and two story historic homes at

the edge of a national registry neighborhood district. Wendy felt it hurt the continuity of the neighborhood. She is concerned that once it is started it will spread and impact the historic neighborhood. Susan said it would be the tallest building in the whole area except the hospital. Susan was also concerned about the parking. Peter suggested we register a formal statement to the Planning and Zoning to reconsider the guidelines for this area. Mary Ann and Peter will attend the Design Review Committee to discuss these issues.

6. Updated goals and objectives were reviewed. Peter suggested we include the number of demolitions in our annual report to city officials to point out we have finite historic resources that are disappearing. Mary Ann reviewed some of the projects in progress including the registry on the website, completing the final RLS survey, updating the national multiple property listing, the UDOT/Cottonwood Street mitigation, disaster response plans and participation in the Utah Shakeout activity, library history, scanning photos of historic buildings in yearbooks and adding to our photo website collection, and encouraging a formal city process for permanent record preservation and storage.

Adding key historic buildings and districts to the national registry multiple property listing will be a top priority for next year. There were many other potential projects that could be done in the future based on staff time and funding in some cases. One item we should probably focus on is the oral histories of the oldest generation so we capture those stories. Susan felt this was important. She also liked the idea of a video history instead of another printed publication.